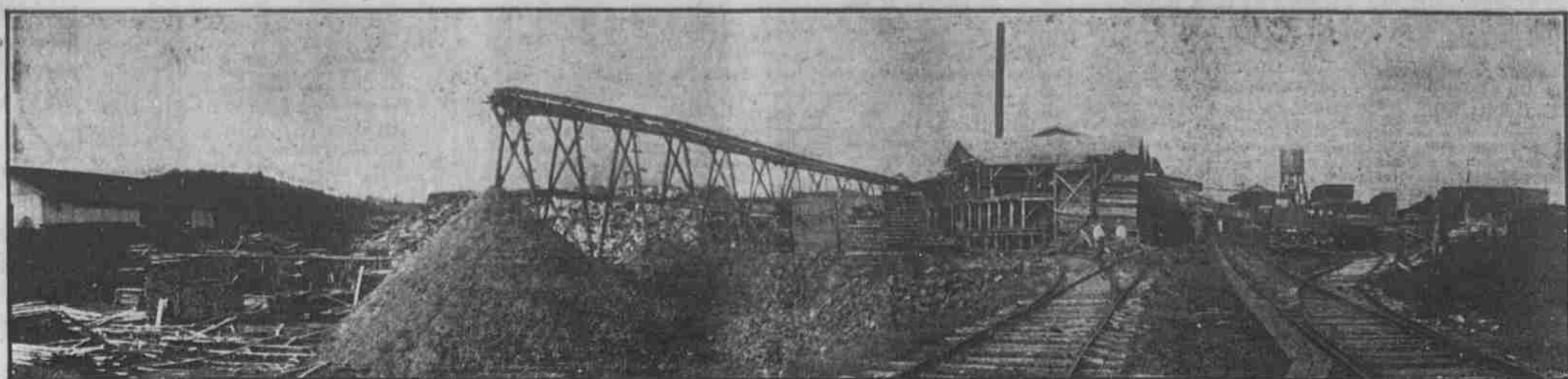


Pahoa Mill Burned Down—Lumber Consumed—Village Is Threatened



THE PAHOA MILL, DESTROYED BY FIRE YESTERDAY

This photograph was taken some months ago. When the fire broke out yesterday the ground between the end of the tippie and the barn on the left was piled high with sawn lumber. The residence of Colonel Johnson, manager, is on the extreme left edge of this section. The photograph was taken from the government road, along which the village, now threatened, is built.

GREATEST FIRE IN HISTORY WIPES OUT MILL AND LUMBER

Latest Wireless Says Pahoa Village in Danger.

(By Kahuku Wireless)

HILA, January 29.—(Special to The Advertiser)—The Pahoa lumber mill, fitted with modern machinery; four million feet of ohia lumber and one hundred thousand feet of sawn Hawaiian mahogany, the valuable koa for which a great demand has grown, were destroyed yesterday in one of the most ruinous fires that has ever been known in the history of Hawaii. The loss is estimated to be half a million dollars, with no insurance.

At four o'clock this afternoon word was received from Pahoa that the wind had shifted and that the village, containing the homes of three or four hundred people, a score of shops and a number of other buildings, including saloons, a church and a schoolhouse, was threatened with destruction.

The fire was being fought by hundreds of volunteers, including a number of Hilo residents, who took the Hilo fire engine to the scene on a special train, and a large number of laborers from the Olaa plantation, who worked under the directions of their plantation lunas.

Origin a Mystery.

The fire was discovered at midnight, but the cause is unknown. Incendiarism is suspected, however, as at half past eleven, only a few minutes before the fire was discovered under full headway, Col. Sam Johnson, the manager of the company, had visited the mill and found everything as it should be. The fire broke out in the neighborhood of the pump-house and spread so rapidly that the first firefighters to respond to the alarm could not get to the pumps. The main mill burned first. Then the fire spread to the planing mill and from that to the piled-up lumber. This was piled to season and in such a way that it gave the flames a chance to spread quickly.

In the lumberyard were four million feet of the mill product, including a hundred thousand feet of koa and three hundred thousand feet of ohia flooring. This entire stock was destroyed, the only sawn lumber left being a number of ohia railroad ties.

Explosions Startled Workers.

When the fire was first discovered, a south wind was blowing, which drove the flames away from the railroad station and company store, allowing this to be saved and keeping the firebrands from blowing on to the buildings in the main village. The manager's house also escaped the flames, although at one time it was on fire.

Some explosives stored in the mill warehouse went off, scattering blazing timbers about and driving the men away from their work. There were two explosions, one closely following the other.

Colonel Johnson estimates the loss to be \$500,000, against which there is no insurance, the policy of the company having been to put the amounts of the heavy premiums into fire-fighting apparatus, of which the mill had what appeared to be a safe amount.

Castle Off for Pahoa.

Word was received early yesterday morning of the Pahoa fire in time for J. B. Castle, the principal stockholder in the Pahoa company, to catch the Mauna Kea for Hilo and the scene of the fire. Mr. Castle has been the main support of the company and it has been his money, on the whole, which kept the company on its feet through its early difficulties and brought it to the point where profits might have been expected. Much sympathy for Mr. Castle has been expressed, as it is feared that this loss, following a number of others, will seriously embarrass him.

The effect of the Pahoa fire will be felt in Honolulu. Material for the Mauna Kea wharf was being turned out at the mill and the completion of that work will be delayed until some paving blocks, to take the place of the ohia blocks desired, can be secured from the coast. It had also been expected that the Pahoa company would be one of the bidders for the large paving contracts soon to be entered into by the city government and the presence of the ohia block people in the fire was expected to have a material effect on the prices to be quoted for the blocks of other styles of street pavements.

Mrs. Johnson, wife of the Pahoa manager, is in Honolulu, having been up at the mill on the Wednesday morning.

AMERICANIZING HAWAII.

"During all the years since annexation, the federal government has been advocating the 'Americanization of Hawaii' by inducements to American and other Caucasian immigrants to displace the original population of these islands. Within the last four years the Territory of Hawaii, through its board of immigration, has expended about three-quarters of a million to promote and assist Caucasian immigration.

"These funds are raised by a special income tax of two per cent restricted to persons and corporations with an income in excess of \$4000 per year. In addition to that, the sugar plantations have directly aided the movement to Americanize the islands by voluntarily paying a higher wage to citizen labor and those eligible to become citizens. As a result of this there is now a steady decline in the percentage of oriental labor engaged in plantation work; there has been no oriental immigration to Hawaii for the past four years, while there is a more or less steady stream of oriental departures.

"It is a fixed economic law that under sharp competition a cheaper form of labor will always crowd out that which has a higher standard of living. In Hawaii we have been taxing the sugar industry to counteract that law and to purposely reverse it by placing Caucasian labor in place of the oriental and in addition to being taxed to bring them in the planters have voluntarily paid a higher wage to Caucasian laborers."—From brief filed with house committee on ways and means by Delegate from Hawaii.

WILSON PROSPECT WORRIES SOME

Just What Manner of President
He Will Be the "Crowd"
Cannot Foretell.

By Ernest G. Walker.

(Mail Special to The Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON, January 11.—Wonderment grows, with all the recent happenings, as to just what kind of a man to get along with in the public service President-elect Wilson will be. There has been no abatement in the reports that he is, self-willed. Although he listens and listens—listens to such an extent that many marvel whether he knows so little about public questions that he is in the throes of the acquiring process—he acts with dispatch and determination when he does act. He gives battle when there is interference, carries his fight to the people and continues his warfare to the last ditch. Somehow or other congress has been absorbing the impression that, as President, Mr. Wilson would be kind and gentle. Many have hugged to their bosoms the idea of Mr. Wilson, in the White House, would defer to senate and house of representatives on matters legislative. He would be ever courteous and affable and not insist upon having his way.

Look at New Jersey.

All that has happened heretofore of a legislative character does not warrant this inference. Note New Jersey. The Governor, soon after his election to his present office, made good his promises that he expected to be the party leader by virtue of his commission from the people. He sailed hard against those who interposed. He went into the legislature, prescribed what laws should be enacted and never "let up" till the things he wanted were granted. He had rather a gentlemanly way of going about it but nevertheless he knew what he wanted, why he wanted it, and when he wanted it. Certainly he had a fashion of keeping on amicable terms with the individuals of the legislature, which is worth bearing in mind.

The natural deduction is that Mr. Wilson will undertake to deal with congress in about the same fashion. With all the conversation that is pouring into his listening ears, he should be able, after a while, to determine about what he wants and the chances are strong that when his mind is fixed he will want to hold congress to doing it as expeditiously as may be. Congress, to be sure, is quite a different body than the legislature of New Jersey and all in all not to be expected at all easily to act. But it has been suggested by one man and apparently there are a goodly number

of Democratic senators and representatives willing the new President should govern them. But the legislative problems ahead there are of a prodigious character. One man alone cannot be expected to work them out. He must depend much upon numerous good lieutenants.

Public Sentiment the Thing.

The essential factor to presidential government over congress is a mighty supporting public sentiment. It is not altogether certain yet whether Mr. Wilson, as President, will have that. Public sentiment in a general way is very much with him. The country has grown rather weary of Washington in recent years because its confidence in men and proceedings there had been undermined. But there are evidences that public interest in what happens at Washington will be very much quickened when the Democratic administration comes in. Those who thought everything under a Republican administration was bound to be safe and satisfactory will begin to take notice soon to see if their interests are being jeopardized. Those who have been displaced and disgruntled will focus their attention to ascertain whether public affairs are to be more to their notion. Consequently Mr. Wilson will have as much attention, probably considerably more from the country at first, than new Presidents are usually accorded.

But he must announce his policies in some detail, he must preach and defend those policies, and the sentiment with which they are accepted will determine very largely whether congress will carry them through. Congress and congressmen care more for pronounced public sentiment than they do for Presidents. The one rarely fails to keep them in public office; the other, if he becomes unpopular, may be a political milestone to them in these modern times of great voting independence.

A Czar Unnecessary.

Of course much will be heard under the Democratic regime about keeping the pledges of the Baltimore platform. The present form of house government favors putting great measures of legislation before the Democratic caucus and allowing it to be determined there whether favorable or unfavorable action shall follow. This may save the new President some embarrassment and he need not assume altogether the czar-like attitude that Colonel Roosevelt, for instance, assumed. But somebody high up must give intimations to the caucus for there are many Democrats in the senate and alike in the house who have not the mentality to decide upon details of legislation. Some one must work out the form and alike the language of the currency reform bill, even as some one must frame the tariff bills and determine whether the reductions in duty shall be thus and so or whether current figures shall stand.

And the great directing force for Democracy must decide upon such things, besides attending to a great volume of other business. The routine will pile upon his desk, unless he has a great facility for disposing of it or of getting others to dispose of it for him. There will be an embarrassing array of things to do and they will come in a tremendous rush, unless the new President has already made up his mind about many basic things and is making up his mind as to others very rapidly. Probably he is making up his mind but the country is waiting to make certain of that.

STRIKE CERTAIN TO COME NOW

(Continued from Page Two)

must follow that when the company waives its right to select the agents by whom alone its duty to both individuals and the public can be carried out, the public would have righteous cause for complaint.

Cannot Yield.

"Feeling thus, we cannot yield to the demand made, and therefore refuse to enter into any such agreement as is proposed.

"On the part of the company, this is not intended as a contest with the principles of organized labor, with which we are thoroughly acquainted, and for which we have great respect. It is a protest against a demand which seems to us to be highly unreasonable as well as inconsistent with the spirit of fairness usually prevailing amongst men, organized or unorganized, possessing the intelligence required of licensed masters and mates.

"If, after learning the attitude of our company as set forth herein, you should desire a conference, our board will gladly appoint a committee to meet a committee of your harbor."

A Sharp Reply.

In reply, after a conference yesterday, a letter was delivered to the company, signed by A. T. Smith, M. O'Connor

and O. W. Olsson, committee, and A. S. Humphreys and C. W. Ashford, counsel. The letter is bitterly sarcastic in tone and in parts calls for the services of an unabridged. It said:

"Gentlemen:—We acknowledge receipt of your communication of even date, in which you express your unwillingness to accept the proposition submitted to you by us on the 27th inst. to arbitrate certain matters at issue between your company and our harbor, basing your refusal, as we understand you, to arbitrate said matters upon your lack of power to delegate to others the authority to hear and determine a matter which involves what you assert to be your right to summarily dismiss from your service, without cause being assigned therefor, any member of our harbor.

Eudemonical Evangelist!

"Although you furnish us with no corroborative evidence of your mental attitude in that respect, it is yet gratifying to us to have you refer to the 'duties owed to the public' by you. A recognition of the fact, by you, that you owe 'duties,' or any 'duty,' to the public, is so utterly at variance with what has been generally conceived to be your frame of mind, that yielding to that trait in human nature which prompts one to magnify the importance of an inconsequential event, or a purely casual observation, struck from a pen solely for the purpose of decorating a phrase or rounding a period, is likely to eventuate in your company's being held, in the public judgment, as an eudemonical evangelist instead of a mere cut-throat enterprise consecrated to and recognizing no other duty than that of earning dividends.

"That this will present a happy situation needs not to be emphasized, for there is another trait in human nature which prompts one to endeavor to live up to the reputation, however undeserved, given one.

Effort to Appear Fair.

"In this view we might leave without reply your letter of this date to us, were it not patent to our minds that your reference to 'the duties owed to the public' is but a mercerized effort to appear fair, so that you may enlist the sympathy of the public, intending the while to be wantonly unfair.

"The reasons given by you for refusing to submit the differences existing between us to arbitration find no support in sound legal judgment, as we are advised, and are opposed to the position taken by you on August 8, 1912, when you specifically requested us to arbitrate matters then at issue between the company and the harbor, expressing yourselves as follows:

"The company is willing to, and now proposes to, submit the same to arbitration; the arbitrators to decide this matter may be either the arbitration committee of any of the public bodies of Honolulu, or be a board of arbitrators chosen in the usual manner; viz: one by the masters and mates, and one by the company; these two to choose a third. Or if preferred by you, a board of five, chosen in like manner: two by the company, two by yourself, and the four to select a fifth."

"A conference with a committee of your directors can not, in our judgment, serve any useful purpose, and is not, therefore, invited by us."

Captains Issue "Warning" Letter. Over the signature "Publicity Committee" the harbor yesterday afternoon handed the following to the press:

To the Public:—As the matter is of such great importance to the safety of the traveling public, we feel that it should know of the present condition existing throughout the steamers of the Inter-Island Steam Navigation Company, Limited. Should at any time an accident occur to one of the island steamers while under way in the channels or along the perilous coasts of the various islands, with the present crew of seamen that the masters are forced to take under the system that the Inter-Island Steam Navigation Co. has of employing its crews, serious loss of life would follow, for the reason that at the present time many of the vessels are sent to sea with crews incapable of manning a boat. In the past three months there have been many accidents to the boats as manned by the present or other inefficient crews. Two lives have also been lost during this time, and 'thousands of dollars' worth of freight as well, and many of the small boats have been wrecked.

Masters Not to Blame.

"This is a condition over which the masters have absolutely no control, for the reason that their suggestions in the premises are not considered. In some instances there are a few good men obtained, but one trip is usually sufficient to cause desertion before the next trip, for the reason that a few able-bodied men are obliged to do the greater part of the work. There are instances where a vessel, through incompetency of the crew was placed in jeopardy and barely escaped disaster at a serious cost.

"When the method of employing men

FEDERAL BUILDING MONEY IS ENDANGERED BY DELEGATE

WOULD MEAN DISASTER.

"I desire to make it very explicit to congress that free sugar will mean, in the case of Hawaii, not merely the loss of capital invested in one of several industries and the expense of transferring to other lines of production as here on the mainland; it means for Hawaii the closing down of four-fifths of her industrial unities, with no other crops available for substitution. It must also be remembered that absence of fuel and raw materials make it impossible to build up any manufacturing industries in Hawaii.

"In making this small statement of facts that free sugar will mean industrial disaster for Hawaiian Islands, I frankly recognize that congress will have an excuse for enacting such legislation if it would permanently confer a benefit on the people of the United States. I am not in the position to contend that the 90,000,000 of people in the United States should be taxed to support the sugar industry of Hawaii and the beet-sugar States. But I hold to the fact that this government, through the power of congressional enactment, will bring disaster to Hawaii without permanently benefiting the people here by giving them cheap sugar."

—From brief filed with house committee on ways and means by Delegate Kuhio.

men is considered, it can be fully realized by any man of common judgment that competency is totally disregarded. The duty of employing men as seamen for the Inter-Island Steam Navigation Company is committed to a man who, not being a seaman himself, is unable to perform his trust with that discriminating judgment which the exigencies of the situation demand, and whose main object appears to be to enlist numbers, efficiency not being considered. When a crew is desired, the shipping master sends a runner to the various corners and places which the unemployed frequent, and the men are gathered in a more or less unfit condition, and sent to the steamers, regardless of who or what they may be. If the complement cannot be obtained in this manner, visits to the Filipino, Korean, and Porto Rican lodging houses are made, and there the balance is recruited in the most haphazard manner.

Once Famous.

"Some time ago, the seamen employed on the Inter-Island ships were famous throughout the world for their ability as experts in handling life and freight boats, under all conditions of wind, weather and sea, and the company now treats as an asset the reputation which it acquired as the result of the labor of these men. These men have in most instances been lost to the company through misunderstandings regarding the amount of pay coming to them at the end of the trip.

"The masters realize that at the present moment it would be a difficult matter to obtain the services of these men again; but what they do claim is this: That they should be allowed to have some voice in regard to the selection and retention of the men at present available, for this reason: that if the masters are allowed to retain the men, they could in time so train them that they would approach that degree of efficiency shown by crews a former times. At the present time it is very seldom a ship has the same crew twice.

Below Average Intelligence.

"In fifty per cent of the steamers operated, not five per cent of the men engaged understand the English or Hawaiian languages, and are not up to, but far below the intelligence of the average seaman. The present officers of the ships who have the management of these crews, are so thoroughly discouraged with the proven futility of their unceasing efforts, and knowing full well that the results reflect on their ability as officers and seamen, many have expressed their intention of withdrawing from the service of the company, because, for the reasons here stated, they cannot adequately meet their responsibilities as such.

"In this connection, we call the attention of the public to the fact that a bill is now pending in congress to require a seaman to stand a prescribed examination as to his fitness to perform the duties which that position involves, thus showing that public opinion, having become concrete on the matter, demands that the situation be dealt with by an authority which can require shipowners to use precautions for the safety of passengers and freight."

Kuhio Fails to File the Necessary Papers in Matter.

By Ernest G. Walker.

(Mail Special to The Advertiser.) * WASHINGTON, January 18.—* The proposed increase of \$500,000 * for the public building at Honolulu will probably be defeated in the house. A subcommittee of the house committee on public buildings and grounds reported unfavorably on the matter. One reason was that the Delegate had not filed the papers, calling for an increase. His secretary was recently requested to do so. If the increase is allowed it will probably be through the action of the senate.

* The fight against Governor * Frear has been opened vigorously * before the senate committee on * Pacific Islands and Porto Rico, * where his renomination is pending. There is no likelihood that the matter will be taken up in committee for two or three weeks. * Senator Poindexter, the chairman, * shows no disposition to hasten it. * However, the Delegate telegraphed the other day from San Francisco, voicing his protest against confirmation. He will be here by the end of the coming week. About the same time W. A. Kinney, who has just returned to town from Nova Scotia, filed a protest against confirmation. * B. G. Rivenburgh, who is here in connection with the gubernatorial interests of Gilbert J. Waller, is only marking time. There is little for him to do, at least till after the Frear nomination is disposed of or defeated.

PROHIBITIONISTS TOO SAINTLY, HE DECLARES

INDIANAPOLIS, January 15.—Declaring that the "goody-goody attitude" hurt the party's cause, George C. Pennell of Pennsylvania in addressing the prohibition national conference here today, urged that "we be just like other people" and that one man's vote is as good as another's. "We have conducted our campaigns," Mr. Pennell declared, "so that a man had to be a saint before he could vote the prohibition ticket. I am sick and tired of hearing prohibitionists tell each other how good they are."

KAUAI TREASURER AND BRIDE VISIT THE CITY

Accompanied by his bride of a few weeks, Harold Morgan of Lihue, Kauai, arrived in Honolulu this week. The couple are on a brief honeymoon trip and plan to return home within a few days. While here they are purchasing furnishings for their new home in the Garden Islands.

Mr. Morgan is treasurer of Kauai as well as assistant cashier of the Bank of Hawaii at Lihue. "The new bank building is rapidly nearing completion at Lihue," he said yesterday, "and we expect that it will be ready for occupancy within a short time. Kauai is prospering and business conditions are very encouraging."

Lee McClung, formerly United States treasurer at Washington, will be a passenger on the return voyage of the Cleveland. He was captain of the Yale football eleven in 1892.

EXPERIENCE IS THE BEST TEACHER.

"A great deal has been written and said in the newspapers regarding Chamberlain's Cough Remedy," says Mr. P. Cruise of Cairns Moor, Natal, Africa. "Still only a few people are aware of the great value of this remedy. There is an old proverb that 'Experience is the best teacher.' My family and I were attacked by severe colds and coughed so that for several nights we could not enjoy sleep. I decided to try Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and when we together had emptied the bottle we were all cured. I recommend this remedy as a true and family physician." For sale by Benson, Smith & Co. Ltd., agents for Hawaii—Advertiser.